



BUTTONBUSH
Cephalanthus occidentalis

Located in swamps, and along pond-borders and stream margins throughout the Division.

A common wetland shrub of the east coast; normally 1 to 4 m high. Leaves, oblong, opposite or in whorls of 3 or 4; green above; 5 to 18 cm long; rounded or narrow at the base; on a short foot-stalk. The small, white flowers are located on a ball-like head ("button"); heads approximately 2.5 cm diameter; flowers bloom in July and August. Fruit 2.5 cm diameter, green-turning reddish-brown; present from September through December.

Seeds eaten by waterfowl and marshbirds; wood and foliage eaten by beaver, muskrat and deer; attracts waterfowl and marsh, game and song birds.



C. occidentalis